

# Kappa Kapers

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Kappa Chapter, Virginia State Organization  
Blue Ridge Coordinating Council**

## President's Message

I do hope all of you are well and staying safe! This is such an unusual time for all of us. I know I miss so many activities that I am involved in and do hope we will be able to go back to normal soon. I salute all of the teachers, who are still teaching. I know they did not teach you in college how to teach online, etc. You have my utmost admiration for what you are doing.

My biennium is coming to an end. The last two years have gone fast. I want to thank the Kappa Executive Committee for all they have done. All of you have been outstanding officers and committee chairpersons. I couldn't have done the job without each one of you. You all are amazing. I want to thank each member for coming to meetings, working on a committee, being a hostess, etc. All of you are a very integral part of this organization. I have enjoyed my presidency more than you will know. It is an honor to be a president of Kappa. I hear from so many members from across the state what a strong chapter we are and I truly believe it. I am sad the chapter will not be able to have the year-end banquet. The chapter would have honored our Downs-Ryerson Grant-In-Aid recipient, nor will new officers be inducted. Induction of the new officers will take place at the September meeting. I have a few items to finish up in September, so mark your calendar that Kappa has a meeting on September 15, 2020 at 6 p.m. Location will be announced. I hope to see each one of you at the meeting.

Please, please let me know if you would like to be on a particular committee or sign up to be a hostess at a monthly meeting. Right now, November and March have plenty of openings. You can email me and let me know your preference. Refer to the handbook for a listing of the committees. Thanks in advance for signing up! I know it will make the new president's job easier if you sign up!

Lastly, I want to thank everyone for their support with my mom's passing on April 15th. The messages, cards, and flowers mean so much. I have heard from many members across the state. It tells me what a caring organization Delta Kappa Gamma really is.

Have an awesome summer! I do hope we will be able to get out and enjoy summer's weather.

With Warmest Regards,

*Susan*

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This framed Lisa Geiman print ("September") that was donated to state headquarters by Kappa Chapter in honor of Jean Smith will be up for bid among Kappa Chapter members. More details coming soon.

## Upcoming Meeting

Our May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 situation.

Mark your calendar for....

### Business Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020

6:00 PM

Location TBD



## BLUESTONE VINEYARD SOCIAL

Will be rescheduled

# Happy Birthday

### May

- 6 Anne Perdue
- 10 Karen OBrien
- 12 Dee Hoy

### July

- 11 Julia C. Van de Water
- 13 Bea Morris
- 21 Emily Morgan
- 25 Ellen Abernethy
- 28 Susan Schuckman
- 29 Martha Chew



### June

- 2 Shelly Moore
- 12 Lynne Carson
- 17 Betty Bennett
- 20 Jennifer Floyd

### August

- 8 Sandy Proctor
- 17 Heather Cooper
- 23 Susan Doughty
- 27 Faith Ballew
- 29 Vrla Leach

## Highlights from last meeting...

Bill Kyger, member of the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors (District 4), spoke to the group about the importance of taking the census and some of the logistics about it. His message was, "Everybody counts so let's count everybody." Complete the census at <https://2020census.gov/>. Learn more about Mr. Kyger at <https://www.rockinghamcountyva.gov/Directory.aspx?EID=6>.



Some census facts....

- It is stipulated in the Constitution that one be taken
- Each residence is sent a postcard with an ID #
- There are 12 questions on the census
- Can do it online or mail it in on paper
- Every person is counted...not every citizen
- College students count in the town where they go to school since they are using the resources of that location
- Want to have completed by April 1<sup>st</sup>

## GIA Recipient...

Courtney Hallacher and Scarlett Kiser evaluated seven applications from students attending Waynesboro, Wilson Memorial and Stuarts Draft High Schools. It was very competitive this year.

Congratulations to Allison Thompson of Wilson Memorial High School. Allison plans to attend Bridgewater in the fall to become a special education teacher. Allison has participated in many extracurricular activities including the Singing Sergeants, varsity basketball, and a member/officer of several clubs, all while maintaining a high academic average. Additionally Allison has devoted many volunteer hours particularly with Camp Light which is a summer camp for individuals with special needs and at risk youth. She balanced all this with a part-time job for the past two years. In Allison's essay she explains how her experience at Camp Light influenced her decision to become an educator. She said, "My passion is helping others around me, therefore I want to align my future endeavors to focus on this... Teachers make such a difference in students' lives and they have influenced me in ways that I am only beginning to understand and appreciate.....I want to be a supporter, encourager, and helper for my future students as they find their way".

Allison was very excited and appreciative when she was contacted about being chosen to receive this scholarship. Sandy Proctor will be mailing the \$1,000 check, money raised by Kappa members' participation in the Belk Charity Days fundraisers over the past year.



# Membership Matters

## 2020-2022 Kappa Chapter Slate of Officers

The Nominations Committee of Kappa Chapter is pleased to announce the 2020-22 Slate of Officers. We will install our officers at the September meeting.

President: Margaret Shifflett  
 First Vice President: Susan Doughty  
 Second Vice President: Cheryl Sams  
 Recording Secretary: Emily Petkus  
 Corresponding Secretary: Scarlett Kiser

Susan Schuckman will represent the Blue Ridge Coordinating Council for 2020-2022. Bea Morris will remain as Recording Secretary and Lynne Carson as Treasurer.

Anne Perdue and Bea Morris  
 2018-20 Nominations Committee

## Care and Concern:

- \*Good health and safety for all members during COVID-19
- \*Sympathy for Susan Schuckman in the loss of her mother
- \*Cheering for Cheryl Perry as she is finishing her radiation treatments

To my Kappa Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, emails, phone calls, Facebook messages, and flowers when my mother passed. It has been a difficult time and I am taking each day as it comes. Your thoughts and prayers have meant so much and I cannot thank each one of you enough for what you have done. Again, thank you.

Blessings to all of you,  
 Susan

## 2020-2021 Dues: A message from Sandy

Due to the Coronavirus and possible financial hardships any of our members may be struggling with currently, we would like to offer some suggestions for assistance. You will be able to break up the total amount of \$90 to pay in two months for \$45 each month or in 3 months for \$30 each month. In the case that this is still too much of a hardship this year, we have some members who have volunteered to chip in and help out with dues.

Any of these options can be addressed with me alone and there would be no discussion of member names involved. You can contact me through email or by phone as soon as you can. I'm in the little red book. Otherwise, I have asked for dues to be paid by June 20.

# COVID-19

## **Margaret Shifflett**

Margaret has offered to make face masks for anyone who needs them. Contact her by emailing [mhshifflett@comcast.net](mailto:mhshifflett@comcast.net) and she will make whatever you need.

## **Courtney Hallacher**

Online learning has been a bit interesting. I'm finding that students know how to use the internet but not their actual computers, lol. Even their chromebooks. Some of my assignments have required flash player to play vocab games or go through science simulations and then have them take screenshots of their results. Even though I included videos on how to do it, I've turned into I.T. On another note, seeing and hearing myself on video is not preferred, Ha! Do I really use "Okay?" and "Um" that much in the classroom? It's been fun but a little overwhelming to find materials that fit what I'm looking for and also are workable within our county's 1 hour of lessons per week guideline.

One of the most rewarding things I've done during this time is each week, I set up a google form for the kids to fill out first thing. The form has different questions on it each week but all revolve around how they are doing. It's a way for the students and I to still feel connected as I would normally check in with them throughout the week in my classroom. I usually respond to them via the Remind app. Some examples have been:

A student was upset about missing prom, so I texted via Remind and suggested that she and her friends get on facetime/zoom and make their own prom

Another student talked about filling up a United Way food box that her family found, she sent a picture of it and now I have my eye out for them too!

A student had been working on his 40 yard dash (I normally work track) and reported that he broke his fastest time. I was able to congratulate him.

It's been really nice to still connect with them in a way we would in the classroom :)

## **Dee Hoy**

These are definitely unusual times. I've caught up on my paperwork filing that's been in the basket since January, binge-watched 8 seasons of McLeod's Daughters, an Australian TV series, looking for any PBS/BBC series to binge next, and attempting to spring clean (not my favorite thing). I had planned to get out the summer patio furniture this coming week, but saw a snowflake in Wednesday's forecast—think I'll hold off on that!!! I hope my Kappa Sisters are all healthy and finding ways to deal with this COVID 19.



### **Marcia Elliott**

I have several projects so when I am tired of one I can switch to another one. Instead of Christmas stockings, I am making collage shoe boxes for the Twelve Days of Christmas. They can open one gift a day starting December 26. When the box is empty, they can use as a Keepsake Box because I am covering in clear contact paper.

I am going through my photo albums and sending extras to family and friends. We spent a week in Danville in March. I reconnected with the Allen's (my Dad's family) and Merchant (my Mom's family). Now we call and write and I send pictures.

I am also sending post cards and cards that I purchased in one of my up periods and then didn't send these in my down time. So I am getting a lot done and enjoying remembering happenings in the past. Looking forward to seeing everyone when activities open up.

### **Laurie Niestrath**

Idioms are challenging for for many of my students, particularly for students who are English speakers of other languages. The one most descriptive of my role as an Adult Educator, is “turning on a dime.” While I’ve used and explained it my students, living this turn from class to class happens nearly every week. The Plugged in Virginia (PIVA) Skilled Trades program through PVCC’s Workforce, moved from in person to digital in one day. Learning how to use Zoom with no training has been fun! Understanding how to engage digital tools with those who reside on the other side of digital literacy stretches me weekly. My life as an educator has always been about change. Actually, I am someone who thrives on change and growth. However, the seat by which I “fly” sometimes feels a little thread.

I look forward to the return of normal, albeit a “new” normal, with an opportunity to engage more fully with the chapter.

### **Mary Etta Cornett**

During the pandemic, I am continuing to babysit my three young grandsons (ages 2, 4, and 9 months) on Tuesday and Thursday. Last week the two year old, Cason, decided to visit my dressing table in my bedroom and do his makeup. He did a pretty good job on the eye shadow but added lip stick to the mix! It was definitely worth a picture. He is into everything, but he is so much fun! I am including a picture.



## 2018-20 Officers

### President

Susan Schuckman  
1225 Goldfinch Dr.  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802-4492  
540-433-1502  
[slschuckman@aol.com](mailto:slschuckman@aol.com)

### Immediate Past President

Lynne Carson  
324 Lodebar Estates  
Nellysford, VA 22958  
434-361-0037  
[braemhor@gmail.com](mailto:braemhor@gmail.com)

### First Vice-President

Margaret Shifflett  
1206 S. Dogwood Dr.  
Harrisonburg, VA 28801  
540-421-3094  
[mhshifflett@comcast.net](mailto:mhshifflett@comcast.net)



### Second Vice-President

Shelly Moore  
30 Seymour Circle  
Staunton, VA 24401  
540-836-9283  
[smmoore@augusta.k12.va.us](mailto:smmoore@augusta.k12.va.us)

### Corresponding Secretary

Scarlett Kiser  
45 Avon Ave.  
Waynesboro, VA 22980  
540-949-0559  
[scarlett.kiser@gmail.com](mailto:scarlett.kiser@gmail.com)

### Recording Secretary

Cheryl Sams  
35 Lea Drive  
Fishersville, VA 22939  
540-910-1192  
[csamsmathlady@gmail.com](mailto:csamsmathlady@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Sandy Proctor  
206 Hudson Ave  
Staunton, VA 24401  
540-885-9769  
[proctorsk@gmail.com](mailto:proctorsk@gmail.com)

### Parliamentarian

Bea Morris  
2669 Ralston Road  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802  
540-867-5109  
[beam1340@verizon.net](mailto:beam1340@verizon.net)



International website:

[www.dkq.org](http://www.dkq.org)

VA State Organization is on Twitter #DKGVA

Chapter website address

[www.vakappachapter.weebly.com](http://www.vakappachapter.weebly.com)

VA State Organization website:

[www.va-state.org](http://www.va-state.org)

Facebook: search "Virginia State Organization, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International"